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Dear Commissioners:

As a university with an AACSB-accredited business school that follows local and national economic trends, we have been interested in following SBC Pacific Bell's pending long distance application. Recently the California Public Utilities Commission approved the (02-306) application. Now California's application is before the FCC.

For a variety of reasons – from supporting economic development in California and allowing educational institutions like ours to save money from true competition – we believe the public will benefit from SBC Pacific Bell's entry.

Perhaps more than any other regulatory request in recent memory, SBC's long distance application has undergone the most extensive PUC review with numerous hearings, testing, and Filings over the past five years.

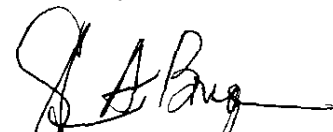
**As** we have seen – and teach our students – competition in various industries is good for consumers, the economy and business. Most times it drives prices down, gives consumers more options, choices and value. To date, this has been the case in 23 states where the FCC has approved a long distance application from Pacific Bell companies to provide long distance services. As a result, more than 140 million Americans are benefiting from increased telecommunications competition.

Based on an economic study conducted by the Telecommunications and Research Action Center, Californians could save up to \$800 million in the first year SBC enters the state's long distance market.

It is in this light that we strongly urge you to approve SBC's long distance request.

Sincerely,

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Sheryl A. Bourgeois